



Mid-County Citizens Advisory Board (MCCAB) Meeting Summary

Mid-County Regional Services Center, 2424 Reddie Drive, Wheaton, MD

Call to Order:	Francisco Romero, Chair			Respectfully Submitted by: Oriole Saah, Secretary		
Date/Time:	September 20, 2016; 7:00 PM ET					
Attendees:	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Adjogah, Mensah		Mansori, Hasan	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Saah, Oriole (Secretary)
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Bonilla, Luis	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Neuringer, Jason	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Shoenberg, Robert (Parliamentarian)
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Curtain, Tom	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Newman, Rick (Vice Chair)		St. Gerard, Henriot
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Intoccia, Gregory	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Romero, Francisco (Chair)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Tankersley, Judy
		Vacant		Rowden, David		Ward, Muriel
Staff:	Luisa Montero, Director, Mid-County Regional Services Center					
Guests:	Adam Fogel, Office of Nancy Navarro, Member, County Council Scott Goldstein, Chief, Montgomery County Fire & Rescue Diane Whittaker, Branch Manager, Wheaton Regional Interim Library Chris Gillis, Office of George Leventhal, Member, County Council					

Call to Order: 7:00 PM by Francisco Romero

Introductions

Agenda – approved unanimously

Minutes – approved unanimously

Old Business:

- Sign legislation – pulled from consideration
- Election scanners – additional funds for the purchase of vote scanners approved and scanners may have been ordered

Guest Speaker – Chief Scott Goldstein, Montgomery County Fire & Rescue (MCFR)

Please see handout provided.

Q: How much training is needed to “put a butt in a seat?”

A: A volunteer starts with six to eight hours per week for two years to qualify. This includes 160 hours of EMT training and firefighting skill training.



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Q: MCCAB is supportive of the work of the MCFR service. What do you need from MCCAB? We can advocate on your behalf.

A: Currently 30 “butts” short. First priority is to ensure that there are four people on each apparatus at all times. Four people is the optimal crew size. On a three-year plan to increase paramedics. The first year was funded. Looking for funding for year two.

Current priorities

1. “Fix what we’ve got” – constantly evaluate existing staffing (slide 6)
2. Improve ALS
3. Expand EMS capacity

Q: If a person calls for an ambulance, is it MCFR who responds?

A: Currently, the first call to 911 is fielded by police staff. If it is for fire or rescue it is transferred to a fire civilian. In the process of consolidating the response center under the police so a person calling about a medical or fire emergency needs to answer only one set of questions. This also puts people currently taking fire calls back on fire trucks. The vehicle responding to the emergency will be MCFR. MCFR does have “automatic aid” agreements with neighboring jurisdictions so if the situation is near a county line, another county may respond and MCFR responds to neighboring needs.

Q: At last year’s retreat, Gam explained enhancements in data gathering. How resources continued to evolve for data tracking? What is needed from MCCAB in this regard?

A: Can never have enough QA/QI (Quality Assurance and Quality Improvement) but do have staff dedicated to QA. Time from call to procedures are within requirement (largely due to the good hospitals in our area). Would like to expand QA.

New Glenmont, Station 18: Ribbon cutting is 10/26, 1:00 PM. Use & Occupancy obtained last week and MCFR expects to run calls from the station as early as 10/16.

Renovation of Aspen Hill, Station 25 opened in late 1990 (intersection of Connecticut Avenue & Bel Pre Road). It needs to be larger. Doubling the size with CIP project which starts next summer. It will remain occupied during the renovation.

Q: Thank you for the donation of a rescue vehicle to West Virginia in the aftermath of recent devastating flooding in that state.

A: Apparatus was due for removal from service and MCFR was happy to donate it to West Virginia. Also, dedicating new apparatus at Arcola this weekend.

Q: Improvement Station 21, Viers Mill, currently in long range plan?

A: The current building is adequate, houses two resources.



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Council Updates –

- Two bills introduced by Hucker today (3916 & 3816) regarding foreclosed properties. Requires owners to be register vacant properties and insure items such as safety and mowed grass. Owners who do not maintain properties will face fees. This does apply to banks who own vacant properties.
- Subdivision Staging 3716 (review required every four years) formerly known as “growth policy” – evaluate fees paid by developers. Leventhal (PHED committee) and Navarro (Gov Ops committee) – will review, in a work session at 9:30 this Thursday, development impact taxes which are used to support schools, transportation, and other issues. County Council reviewing Planning Board proposals. I.E. transportation needs traditionally measured in cars, proposing to measure the movement of people to account for access to public transportation and distance from access to transportation. Details are available on the Planning website and County Council website.
- Hucker 3216 – technical change to sick leave legislation, which takes effect on 10/1, clarifies that sick leave can be used as parental leave for birth or adoption. Public hearing was today.
- Term Limits – petition for ballot referendum will limit tenure. Council members and the County Executive not eligible to serve more than three consecutive terms. This will include any part of a partial term as if it were a full term. Council added Question C, which will define a “full” term as two or more years of service, which mirrors the U.S. Constitution. The Council can place a question on the ballot with five votes. Any member of the public can place a question on the ballot with 10,000 signatures. The group, Help Save Maryland, named a “hate group” by the Southern Poverty Law Center and Anti-Defamation League. MCCAB members raised concerns about these references. Proponents argue that term limits enhance the condition of women & minorities, reduce taxes, reduced lobbying influence, voter turnout.
 - Southern Poverty Law Center: <https://www.splcenter.org/fighting-hate/intelligence-report/2010/nativist-extremist-group-list> (added after meeting)
 - Anti-Defamation League: <http://www.adl.org/civil-rights/immigration/c/anti-immigrant-groups-focus.html> (added after meeting)
- Public Campaign Financing
 - Program is voluntary
 - Campaigns agree to limit contributions to \$150 or less
 - Program launches 2018
 - Council dedicated \$5 million this past year and \$1 million last year
 - County Executive candidate match is larger than Council candidate match
 - Caps financing at \$125,000 for Council candidates and \$1 million for County Executive candidates



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- Prequalification – raise \$10,000 in small contributions from at least 125 donors for Council candidates and (not sure of amount) from 500 small donors for County Executive candidates.
- Spending limitations – campaign related expenses only and must place a firewall between “old” funding and public funds.
- Corporations and Unions NOT individuals and candidates are prohibited from accepting contributions from either
- Department of Finance will administer, in coordination with State Board of Elections
- 10/27 briefing to learn more
- Bill to ease restrictions on small cell antennae – will allow leased space on larger pole available “by right,” not needing additional approval. Bill is on hold now, Council approaching cautiously. Residents expect WiFi wherever they go but the Council also wants to respect property rights.

Community Concerns:

Ms. Whittaker, Branch Manager, Wheaton Regional Interim Library

- Interim location: ballroom of Wheaton Fire station. Will be closed for three weeks around the election and will reopen mid-November with 15,000 books
- Will do family programs, please come join us!
- People need help finding the new facility – old signs need to be removed/replaced. Working with rescue squad to add signage.
- Wants MCCAB to get the word out on our LISTSERVES.
- Working with Arcola and Forest Knolls Elementary Schools on a program to provide library cars for every elementary school student in the county.

Director Report

- WUDAC – early 2017 construction starts on Wheaton Redevelopment. Tenants start moving out in October. Security will be dynamic. Small Business Assistance is going well; U of MD joined as a new partner. End of September is target date for AMC theater opening at Westfield.
- Wheaton North – County interagency meeting next week. County Council is supportive of the response to the community.
- Post article on aging infrastructure relating to HOAs and condos. Need to be aware/informed of this issue. County DHCA & permitting will work on these issues.
- Excellence in Business survey – received close to 800 responses.
- Tennis Court Policy change – hearing announcement
- MCCAB interviews next week – 17 applicants for 2 vacancies plus two re-appointments



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- BRT – Viers Mill report public: five options. Public comments open until 10/14. Can find full report on the website.

Committee Reports

Quality of Life

Land Use, Transpiration, & Zoning

- Transportation letter – Need to speak with other CABs
- Closing of Rock Creek Parkway for three years (during Metro's surge) – too late to impact the decision. Asked County Executive to contact National Parks Service to delay the closing in light of Metro Safe Track.

Liaison Reports

Permitting

- Sign ordinance proposed legislation regarding clearing signs – should be a highways issue, not permitting. No success with current enforcement. County Council not voting so may be mute. Back to status quo. NO applications for legal signage at this time.
- Working on moving operations to new Wheaton building
- Open House for churches in November – churches feel they're locked out of permitting by DPS process.
- Moving permitting services online – making access for consumers faster, easier
- New construction – not a mid-county issue
- Private roads – dealing with this
- Next meeting is November
- Aprons – question raised about the need to post a bond nearly as large as the cost of replacing an apron, depriving the homeowner of access to their funds for the duration of the project. Judy will raise this issue at the next meeting.

Olney Town Center Advisory Committee

- Jiffy Lube planning a location across from the new Chick-fil-a – could be traffic/congestion nightmare. Advisory Committee planning an emergency meeting to respond to this plan.
- County Council Town Hall – all nine members participated, responsive to citizen questions

WUDAC – Luisa presented during her report

New Business –

- Retreat – wait for new members? Decided on Thursday, November 3. Dinner @ 6:00



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PM and meeting from 6:30 to 9:00 PM. Mid-County Rec Center/Queensguard?

- Uniformity of Boards – GOCA raised issues with traffic camera task force as a Citizen Advisory Board, advising Chief Manger on policies affecting the use of cameras but not constituted as a standard CAB. Greg will provide background materials for QoL. Is this a Carter issue?
- Chair asked members to come prepared with issues, to bring draft letters to committee, and to play an active role as we determine our focus for the coming year.
- Committee Chairs – will choose at committee meetings. Chair said it would be good to have a combination of chairs with experience and those new to the Board.

Adjournment: Motion to adjourned meeting approved at 9:10 pm.